AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

- 1. (Original) A germicidal composition comprising:
 - a diluent; and

a germicidal compound having the formula:

wherein Ar is an aryl group selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 4-pyrimidinyl, and 2-(2-nitro-3-formyl-phenyl).

- 2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a germicidally effective amount of the compound.
- 3. (Original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a buffer;
 - a chelating agent;
 - a corrosion inhibitor; and
 - a surfactant.
- 4. (Original) The composition of claim 3, further comprising:
 - a fragrance; and

a coloring agent.

4

- 5. (Withdrawn) A method comprising killing bacteria by contacting the bacteria with the composition of claim 1.
- 6. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 1 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.
- 7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein Ar is phenyl.
- 8. (Original) The composition of claim 7, wherein the germicidally effective amount of the compound is effective to kill at least 1x10⁶ Mycobacterium terrae bacteria in contact with the composition in less than one hour with a bacteria suspension test at a temperature of 20°C.
- 9. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 8 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.
- 10. (Original) The composition of claim 7, further comprising an enhancer to enhance a germicidal efficacy of the germicidal compound, the enhancer selected from the group consisting of isophthalaldehyde and a combination of isophthalaldehyde and terephthalaldehyde.
- 11. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein Ar is 4-pyrimidinyl.
- 12. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 11 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.

13. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 11, wherein the germicidally effective amount of the compound is effective to kill at least $1x10^4$ Mycobacterium terrae bacteria in contact with the composition in less than five minutes with a bacteria suspension test at a temperature of 20°C.

- 14. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein Ar is 2-(2-nitro-3-formylphenyl).
- 15. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 14 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.
- 16. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 14, wherein the germicidally effective amount of the compound is effective to kill at least $1x10^4$ Mycobacterium terrae bacteria in contact with the composition in less than five minutes with a bacteria suspension test at a temperature of 20°C.
- 17. (Withdrawn) A method comprising killing bacteria by contacting the bacteria with a compound having the formula:

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wherein Ar is phenyl, 4-pyrimidinyl, or 2-(2-nitro-3-formyl-phenyl).

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, further comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with a composition including the compound of claim 13 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.

19. (Original) A germicidal composition comprising:

a diluent;

phenyl-propanedial; and

isophthalaldehyde.

- 20. (Original) The composition of claim 19, wherein the isophthalaldehyde is an enhancer for the germicidal efficacy of the phenyl-propanedial.
- 21. (Withdrawn) A method comprising killing bacteria by contacting the bacteria with the composition of claim 19.
- 22. (Original) The composition of claim 19, further comprising terephthalaldehyde.
- 23. (Original) The composition of claim 22, wherein the isophthalaldehyde and the terephthalaldehyde are an enhancer for the germicidal efficacy of the phenyl-propanedial.
- 24. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 23.